

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 23, 1998
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 22, 1998
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 28, 1998

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—1997–98 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1784

**Introduced by Assembly Member Baca
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Havice and Wayne)**

February 6, 1998

An act to add Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 11759) to Part 1 of Division 10.5 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to substance abuse.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1784, as amended, Baca. Alcohol and drug treatment for adolescents.

Existing law imposes various functions and duties on the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs with respect to the administration of programs for the treatment of substance abuse.

This bill would enact the Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Treatment and Recovery Program Act of 1998, which would require the department, in collaboration with counties and local law enforcement, to establish community-based nonresidential and residential recovery programs to intervene and treat the problems of alcohol and drugs among youth.

The bill would also require the department to convene representatives of specified state agencies to collaborate on the implementation of the act by developing the plans necessary for the implementation of program services including the funding required, licensing and certification standards, goals and objectives, and models for residential and nonresidential programs.

This bill would further require the department to distribute funds allocated for drug or alcohol treatment services for youth, or both, from an appropriation to the department in the Budget Act of 1998, for purposes of implementing pilot programs for alcohol and drug treatment and recovery services for adolescents in the southern, central, and northern parts of the state, in accordance with a specified schedule, and to contract with community-based organizations to provide services under these programs.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of
2 the following:

3 (a) California families are confronted with
4 challenging problems associated with drug and alcohol
5 abuse. Families are in desperate need for assistance in the
6 management and treatment of this adolescent and youth
7 problem.

8 (b) In California, the primary strategy for challenging
9 adolescents and drug problems has been placed on the
10 California Youth Authority, probation departments, and
11 other law enforcement related agencies.

12 (c) According to the recent report by the Drug
13 Strategies Inc., an organization that examines and reports
14 approaches to drug law enforcement, many police
15 officers have concluded that heavy reliance on the
16 criminal justice system to solve the nation's drug
17 problems is simply not working. Sixty percent of police
18 chiefs say law enforcement efforts to reduce drug abuse
19 are unsuccessful, according to a nationwide 1996 Peter D.



1 Hart Research Associates poll; nearly half called for a
2 fundamental overhaul of how we deal with the drug
3 problem.

4 (d) The nation's chiefs of police and the American
5 public agree that drug abuse is a major problem that is
6 growing worse. In a 1996 poll, 6 to 10 police chiefs
7 reported that drug abuse was the most serious problem
8 facing their communities; more serious than domestic
9 violence, property crime, or violent crime. In a survey a
10 year earlier, over half of Americans reported concern
11 about drug use among young people and the violence
12 associated with drug trafficking. Two-thirds of police
13 chiefs and the American public believe the drug problem
14 has grown worse over the past five years.

15 (e) Perceptions of drug abuse exist despite significant
16 government spending on drug control efforts. From 1981
17 to 1997, the federal government spent nearly sixty billion
18 dollars (\$60,000,000,000) on domestic drug law
19 enforcement. Federal expenditures for domestic drug
20 law enforcement during the years of 1991 to 1995,
21 inclusive, were eight times larger than expenditures from
22 the years of 1981 to 1985, inclusive. Despite these budget
23 increases, the drug problem persists.

24 (f) Arrests for drug offenses (possession or sales) have
25 risen sharply in recent years, climbing from 460,224 in
26 1980, to 1,167,600 in 1995.

27 (g) Since 1991, drug use has climbed sharply among
28 junior high and high school students, according to the
29 annual survey, "Monitoring the Future". Increases have
30 been most dramatic among the youngest teens. In the
31 past five years, drug use has more than doubled among
32 8th- and 10th-graders.

33 (h) Results from the most recent National Household
34 Survey on Drug Abuse, reported in August 1997, suggest
35 that these trends may be changing; in 1996, young people
36 ages 12 through 17, reported slight declines in drug use.
37 However, epidemiologists are cautious about
38 interpreting the newest data since the statistically
39 significant differences between rates of drug use in 1995
40 and 1996 are very small.

1 (i) Information from other sources, including the new
2 “Monitoring the Future” survey, which will be released
3 in December 1997, will be needed to determine whether
4 teen drug use is in fact declining. Rising teen drug use has
5 been accompanied by increasing drug arrests among
6 juveniles. From 1991 to 1995, juvenile drug law violations
7 (possession or sale) more than doubled. The nationwide
8 Drug Use Forecasting system (DUF) reports that in 1996,
9 more than half of arrested juveniles tested positive for
10 drugs at the time of arrest, compared to less than one-fifth
11 five years ago.

12 (j) This act recognizes that federal, state, and local
13 drug control spending assigns low priority to treatment
14 and prevention of substance abuse, and recognized the
15 extensive research that confirms that treatment is the
16 most cost-effective way to combat drug abuse and
17 drug-related crimes.

18 (k) The 1994 Rand Study found that thirty-four million
19 dollars (\$34,000,000) invested in treatment would reduce
20 cocaine use as much as an expenditure of two hundred
21 forty-six million dollars (\$246,000,000) for law
22 enforcement or three hundred sixty-six million dollars
23 (\$366,000,000) for interdiction.

24 SEC. 2. Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 11759)
25 is added to Part 1 of Division 10.5 of the Health and Safety
26 Code, to read:

27

28 CHAPTER 4. ALCOHOL AND DRUG TREATMENT FOR
29 ADOLESCENTS
30

31 11759. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as
32 the Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Treatment and
33 Recovery Program Act of 1998.

34 11759.1. The department, in collaboration with
35 counties and local law enforcement, shall establish
36 community-based nonresidential and residential
37 recovery programs to intervene and treat the problems
38 of alcohol and drugs among youth.

39 ~~11759.2. In the first year of implementation, the~~
40 ~~department shall establish the program in 10 counties.~~



~~For five of these counties, priority for funding of these programs shall be given to counties with a population above 500,000 and a violent crime rate above the statewide average according to Department of Justice statistics for 1996.~~

~~11759.3.—~~

11759.2. The department shall convene representatives from the Office of Criminal Justice Planning (OCJP), the California Youth Authority (CYA), the Managed Risk Medical Insurance Board (MRMIB), the State Department of Education, the State Department of Social Services, and any other agencies as the department deems necessary, to collaborate on the implementation of this chapter. These representatives shall develop the plans necessary for the implementation of program services required under this chapter including the funding required, licensing and certification standards, goals and objectives, and models for residential and nonresidential programs.

11759.3. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that priority for funding for recovery programs for youth be given to counties with a population above 500,000 and a violent crime rate above the statewide average according to Department of Justice statistics for 1996.

(b) The department shall distribute funds allocated for drug or alcohol treatment services for youth, or both, from an appropriation to the department in the Budget Act of 1998, for purposes of implementing pilot programs for alcohol and drug treatment and recovery services for adolescents in the southern, central, and northern parts of the state, in accordance with the following schedule:

(1) Sixty percent of the total allocation to the southern California pilot programs. Of this amount, 60 percent shall be used to establish two equally funded programs in Los Angeles County and 40 percent shall be used to establish one program in San Bernardino County.

(2) Forty percent of the total allocation to the central and northern California pilot programs. Of this amount, 50 percent shall be used to establish one program in the

1 *County of Fresno, and 50 percent shall be used to*
2 *establish one program in the County of Sonoma.*
3 *(c) Pilot programs shall be targeted to, and located in,*
4 *high-risk communities, and the department shall contract*
5 *with community-based organizations to provide services*
6 *under these programs.*

